2014-15 Tennessee Recycling Coalition Award Application Tom Hattle Memorial Award Mrs. Judy Hayes

Former school teacher and County Commissioner Judy Hayes has been the backbone of Williamson County's waste prevention and recycling efforts for the past 28 years. She is committed to community service, values education, and has made the environment a priority throughout her career.

Upon being elected as a County Commissioner in 1986, Hayes became a driving force that lead to the creation of the county's Material Recovery Facility and Williamson Recycles in 1989. As the education division of the Williamson County Solid Waste Department, Williamson Recycles reaches approximately 200,000 residents and 48 schools today largely due to Hayes' commitment to environmental education in the community.

As a County Commissioner, Judy Hayes also helped to initiate Williamson County Government's environmental volunteer program. In 2001, Williamson County became a Keep America Beautiful affiliate known as Keep Williamson Beautiful (KWB), which is the volunteer division of the Solid Waste Department. Not only did Hayes help create KWB, but she actively serves as a KWB board member and has logged hundreds of volunteer hours over the past 13 years.

Judy Hayes serves as the Solid Waste Board Chair and has held the position since 1992. The county lends credit to Hayes for its current real time diversion rate of 40% and for over 525,000 tons of recycling and diversion between 1995 and 2013.

The Tom Hattle Memorial Award is intended for an outstanding teacher or community leader who gives her all to promote recycling. Judy Hayes has been an exceptional teacher and community leader in Williamson County throughout her entire career and is the personification of what this award represents.